AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. Please cancel claims 4, 11 and 16 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1.   (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method for composing network accessible services said method comprising the steps of:

storing an abstract plan <u>in a computer storage medium</u> that specifies a set of logical processes that identify a type of network accessible service to be used and an order of use of said network accessible service, wherein each service is assigned to said abstract plan in a predetermined manner;

determining<u>, using a processor,</u> an instantiated plan that specifies at least one particular network accessible service that can perform each one of the logical processes of the abstract plan; ~~and~~

evaluating<u>, using a processor,</u> said instantiated plan for violations of predetermined constraints relating to subsequent execution of the determined network accessible services of said instantiated plan<u>; and</u>

<u>composing, using a processor, an alternative abstract plan based on said evaluated instantiated plan violating at least one of the predetermined constraints.</u>

2.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of rejecting an instantiated plan if the evaluated instantiated plan violates at least one of the predetermined constraints.

3.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of

determining a set of parameters concerning the instantiated plan, and an approximate range of

each of the parameters.

4.   (Canceled.)

5.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the abstract plan specifies

an ordered set of logical processes.

6.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the abstract plan is

represented in a predetermined form using a web services composition language.

7.   (Currently Amended) A computer storage medium readable by a computer

tangibly embodying a program ~~product~~ of instructions executable by said computer for

performing a method of composing network accessible services, ~~comprising computer software~~

~~recorded on a computer-readable portable storage medium for performing the steps of~~ said

computer-implemented method comprising:

storing an abstract plan in a computer storage medium that specifies a set of logical

processes that identify a type of network accessible service to be used and an order of use of said

network accessible service, wherein each service is assigned to said abstract plan in a

predetermined manner;

determining, using a processor, an instantiated plan that specifies at least one of particular

network accessible service that can perform each one of the logical processes of the abstract plan;

~~and~~

evaluating, using a processor, said instantiated plan for violations of predetermined

constraints relating to subsequent execution of the determined network accessible services of said

instantiated plan; and

composing, using a processor, an alternative abstract plan based on said evaluated

instantiated plan violating at least one of the predetermined constraints.

8.   (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising computer-readable storage

media storing instructions to cause said computer system to provide composing services

comprising:

means for storing an abstract plan that specifies a set of logical processes that identify a

type of network accessible service to be used and an order of use of said network accessible

service, wherein each service is assigned to said abstract plan in a predetermined manner;

means for determining an instantiated plan that specifies at least one particular network

accessible service that can perform each one of the logical processes of the abstract plan; ~~and~~

means for evaluating said instantiated plan for violations of predetermined constraints

relating to subsequent execution of the determined network accessible services of said

instantiated plan; and

composing an alternative abstract plan based on said evaluated instantiated plan violating

at least one of the predetermined constraints.

9.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product in claim 7, further

comprising the step of rejecting an instantiated plan if the evaluated instantiated plan violates at

least one of the predetermined constraints.

10.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product in claim 7, further

comprising the step of determining a set of parameters concerning the instantiated plan, and an

approximate range of each of the parameters.

11.   (Canceled.)

12.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product in claim 7, wherein the

abstract plan specifies an ordered set of logical processes.

13.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product in claim 7, wherein the

abstract plan is represented in a predetermined form using a web services composition language.

14.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising

means for rejecting an instantiated plan if the evaluated instantiated plan violates at least one of

the predetermined constraints.

15.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising

means for determining a set of parameters concerning the instantiated plan, and an approximate

range of each of the parameters.

16.   (Canceled.)

17.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the abstract

plan specifies an ordered set of logical processes.

18.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the abstract

plan is represented in a predetermined form using a web services composition language.